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READING IN THE RACINE HIGH SCHOOL

The college requirements in English make the reading of standard English and American authors an addition to the courses of study of most secondary schools. Much of this can be done in classes, and must be done there if any adequate results are to be obtained by the pupil along the line of analysis of plots, characters, incidents and so forth. These requirements, however, even if well done, do not add heavily to the work of the pupil, and are deficient in not giving enough of such reading. Undoubtedly the framers of these requirements had in mind the amplifying of this work by home reading. At least, that is the interpretation of the matter taken by the Racine High School, and, in consequence, this school has a scheme of required home reading to supplement the above college requirements.

But we were met by the fact that pupils were doing this reading in a valueless way, that is, many knew but little about a book a week or so after they had reached the *finis*. It was impossible for the teachers to question the pupils concerning the matters they should remember, and so a plan was devised to have each pupil report, after having read a book, according to the following blank:

RACINE HIGH SCHOOL

Date	Your name
Book read	Author
When read?	How many times?
is m	y favorite character because he is
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
I most dislike the character of	because he is

The book teaches
Ilike the book because
The description I like best is
Why?
Quote any passage you have memorized
The author has also written
I have now read the following books of those required for theclass
Any additional remarks may be put on the back of this sheet.

We realize fully the many objections that may be raised both as to the form given and the character of the results likely to be reached. But we hope that by the time a pupil has read twenty books, even in this way, he will have acquired something of a reading habit.

A. J. Volland